El Caballero

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL | OCTOBER 17, 1986 | VOLUME LXIX | NUMBER 2

Gravett goes to London

by Jamie Jung

London, Amsterdam, Brussels, and Paris are all intended stops for an AIFS trip, led by History teacher, Ms. Gravette. July 11 through August 7 are the scheduled dates.

The trip will cost each student $2339 for 28 days in Europe. Although no signups have yet been taken, only between 12-16 students will be allowed on the trip.

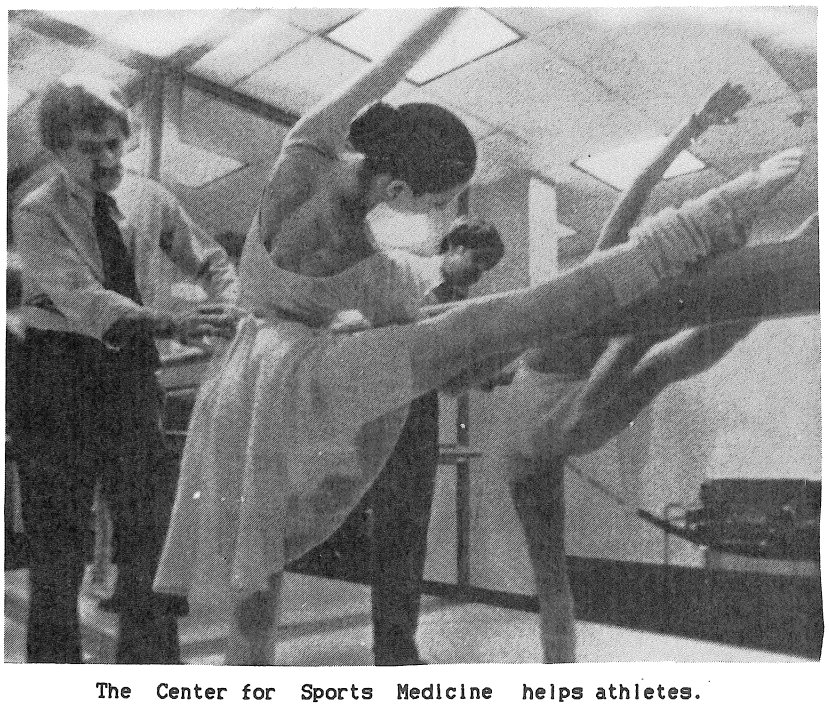
Students will spend 20 days in London, 2 days in Amsterdam, 1 day in Brussels, and 3 days in Paris. The other two days will be spent in traveling.

The reason that 20 days are being spent in London is because this is intended to be an educational trip as well as a fun trip.

There will be workshops, at Richmond College in London, on Drama, Theater, Musical Comedy, Modern Dance, Techniques of Photography, Costume and Makeup for the Theater, and Art of the Cinema. All the workshops are related to theater and theater production and are held in the mornings, allowing students ample time to do other activities in the afternoon, like touring, tennis, volleyball, croquet, swimming, or boating on the Thames River. The number of students from Richmond/El Cerrito, will be a small part of a large group from all over the U.S. taking the tour.

Gravette took a group last summer and she commented, "It was an excellent trip; the kids learned a lot and it was a great value for the money." Having lived in England for 17 years, and also having raised children of her own, she feels that she is very qualified to lead the trip and since there will be another adult accompanying them, the students will also be well-chaperoned.

Presently, an informational meeting is being planned for sometime this month. Sign-ups have not been taken yet. For more information, call Ms. Gravette at (415) 525-4105.



The Center for Sports Medicine helps athletes.

Gosnell honoured

by Ray Yokoi

Science teacher Mrs. Gosnell's excellent teaching skills have earned her a nomination for the 86-87 State of California "Teacher of the Year" Award. It honors and recognizes the superb work of teachers in the state.

Mrs. Blackman, principal of ECHS felt Gosnell deserved the 86-87 nomination not only for her fifteen years of excellent teaching but her interest and participation in ECHS'S two anti-drug programs, SADD and Youth Educators. Also, she has pioneered two new classes since coming to El Cerrito High, Marine Biology and Health Science.

Gosnell gleams at honor of recent nomination.

A "Teacher of the Year" candidate is selected from each school. The R.U.S.D. teachers compete for district "Teacher of the Year". Then it goes to county and then finally state. Unfortunately, Mrs. Gosnell ran across stiff competition and was denied a spot in the county competition.

New sports center opens

by Josh Merritt

The Center for Sports Medicine, previously located only in San Francisco, has branched off to include a second location in Walnut Creek. The Walnut Creek branch was opened this year in response to the growing number of athletes outside of San Francisco.

The main purpose of The Center for Sports Medicine is to heal special types of sports related injuries. The center also trains and educates athletes how to avoid future injury.

"A large percentage of the athletes that come (to the center) are returned to full participation (in their sport)," according to an employee of the Walnut Creek branch of the hospital. This success is due to the fact that "they specialize in athletes and work to heal them quickly," says Lindsey Beaven of Dudell and Associates, the marketing firm handling The Center For Sports Medicine.

Often times, according to Beaven, an athlete can be returned to full participation more quickly and in better physical shape if taken to the Center rather than to a regular hospital. This is because of special forms of physical therapy and rehabilitation utilized by the Center.

The Center also offers special programs such as dance related injury therapy, preparticipation evaluations for school-based athletics, nutritional counseling, and the use of protective devices and custom made shoe inserts.

The Center was founded in 1979 and under the leadership of director Dr. James G. Garrick it has grown in popularity and status to treat such professional athletes like Joe Montana of the San Francisco 49ers. The Center has also gained national recognition for its specialized medical care and seserch in the field of sports medicine.

The "Side Effect" of Music at ECHS

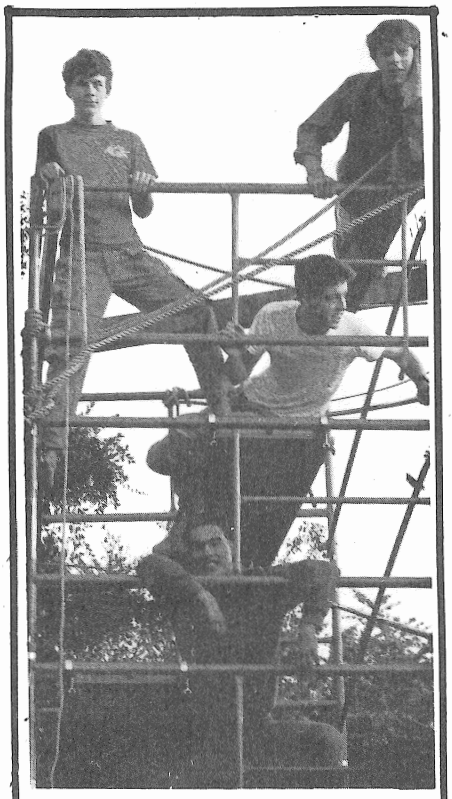
by Dexter Billfold

There is probably not one teenager today who has not dreamt of being famous. An actor, a rock star, or maybe a t.v. personality. But when the person gets down from the clouds and actually tries to break into this world of prestige, he might find it a little more difficult then he thought. I had a rare chance at an interview with two members of one of ECHS's aspiring musical groups, "Side Effect". so of course, I immediately grabbed it (What an opportunity!).

"Side Effect" is an all junior "rock/jazz" style group with four members. Paul "Z" Zahnley on guitar, Brian Hoagland on bass, Darryl Laferte on drums and Kelly Hale on vocals. They all attend ECHS except Kelly, who attends St. Marys.

So how did "Side Effect" actually come to be? According to Laferte, the group started just two years ago for fun. Back then, they had a different lead vocalist.

"We messed around for a while 'till we decided to get a real singer", Laferte said jokingly, "Kelly worked out great".



"Side Effect" hanging out after a jam session. (Top l-r: Laferte, Hale, middle: Zahnley, bottom: Hoagland).

The name "Side Effect", according to Laferte, who thought up the name, came to be "when Brian decided to call us 'Island of Men' and I thought I'd better think up another name fast before that one stuck. So in English, I just thought of 'Side Effect'- it describes us very well."

Many groups often run into problems with harmony. In "Side Effect," the conflict seems to be over who's house to jam at. Says Zahnley, "We have problems getting together to practice. Brian and I decided not to practice at Darryl's. Laferte claims the reason is that "Z and Brian are too weak to carry over their amps downstairs."

Because the group is just starting, "Side Effect" has not had much publicity or ligitamate work. "We played for our class ('88) last year at the Hawiian Luau," says Zahnley, "And a gig at a party at Kelley's house. We didn't do too well there." "Leave that out. It was a really bad scene." At the Luau, however, "Side Effect" was a hit. Says one spectator, "Wow... what can I say? They're just totally awesome."

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

Both Laferte and Zahnley agreed that they would like outside publicity and work. "We need money." says Zahnley. Laferte added, "We'd play outside, inside, in between. Anyone who likes us." How about playing professional? "We don't expect to play professionally, but that'd be pretty live. I mean, who hasn't danced around their room in their underwear lip syncing their favorite song? We'll just see what comes along."

Will "Side Effect" in fact become a rich and famous group? Will "Side Affect" bust out with publicity second only to "Creedance Clearwater Revival"?

(a popular group that started at ECHS in the '60's)

Maybe, maybe not. But if you ever get the chance, listen to these guys and judge for yourselves.

Their demo will hopefully be available before the holiday season for around $3.50. Plus, they will be selling buttons again and hopefully tee shirts.

"Up the Down Staircase" shaping up

by Michelle Tang

The red velvet curtains slowly part, the stage lights blink on, and the stage is set. The audience settles back in their chairs, ready to enjoy a night of pure entertainment.

Once again,the El Cerrito High School Thespians are hard at work piecing together the parts of the new fall play, "Up the Down Staircase." Kathleen Ray, the drama teacher at ECHS, is the director, and senior Gideon Zaretsky is helping as student director.

The red velvet curtains slowly part . . .

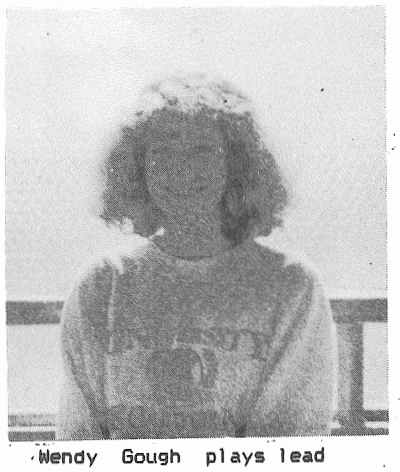
"Up the Down Staircase," taken from the book by Bel Kaufman, is about an inexperienced, enthusiastic young English teacher, Sylvia Barrett (Wendy Gough), who is ready to take on the challenges of her career. She's not quite prepared for the students at Calvin Coolidge High.

As if handling lovestruck Alice Blake (Elena Gardella) were not enough, she must also handle a classful of students, including Joe Ferone (Chidi Imaga) who is an insolent, uninterested teenager with an attitude problem. Sylvia not only struggles with her pupils, but the administration as well. The school nurse (Vicki Choi) only gives tea as medication; the librarian (Robyn Wilson) contradicts herself by urging the students to use the library, but does not allow them to check out the books. "Up the Down Staircase" is a comedy that is touching and funny at the same time.

"Up the Down Staircase" will be presented November 13, 14, and 15 in the Little Theatre at 7:30 or 8:00 pm. Tickets will cost around $4.00. Gideon Zaretsky, who, in addition to his role as student director, also plays the principal in the show, says that "...people should pay lots of money to go see it."

"Up the Down Staircase" has a huge cast of thirty-one members. In addition, there are four understudies, Andrew Kaplan, Barbara Moretti, Lisa Turnipseed, and Francis West.

With such a large cast, it was inevitable that many people who had never been involved with an ECHS production would be a part of this falls' show. Among the sixty-seven people that auditioned, the lucky ones are hard at work to assure a great production.



Wendy Gough plays lead in fall play.

Dmitri Mehlhorn, who portrays suave, handsome Paul Barringer, thinks that "...it's a good production. There are a lot of new people in it and they should make for a very hoopty play."

Cafeteria review

by Patchen Markell

During my first three years at El Cerrito High School, I was only remotely aware that our campus had a cafeteria. Of course I knew it existed, but I had only eaten there a few times and, repulsed by the food, never planned to do so again. I preferred the more carefully prepared lunches of Mom, Seven-Eleven, or the vending machines. This year, however, I had a sudden change of heart. When Jose Guererro announced that the cafeteria had undergone a few changes and was promising better food, I decided to find out for myself.

In most respects, Jose was right. This years food actually bears a large resemblance to real food, unlike the disappointing meals of the last three years.

Another improvement lies in the diversification of the menu. During a two-week period we were offered lumpia (a large egg-roll shell stuffed with what appears to be nicely seasoned meat, vegetables and rice), piroshki (a slightly spicy beef mixture baked inside a light airy roll), and Polish sausages, all of which are new, according to the students I have talked to.

The biggest improvement in the 1986 menu has got to be the french fries. While previous potatoes were white, greasy, warm on the outside and cool and powdery inside (probably as the result of a microwave), the new fries appear to have been properly deep-fried. They are golden and crisp on the outside, and hot and fully cooked inside.

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EC goes Hollywood

by Jeffrey Pryde

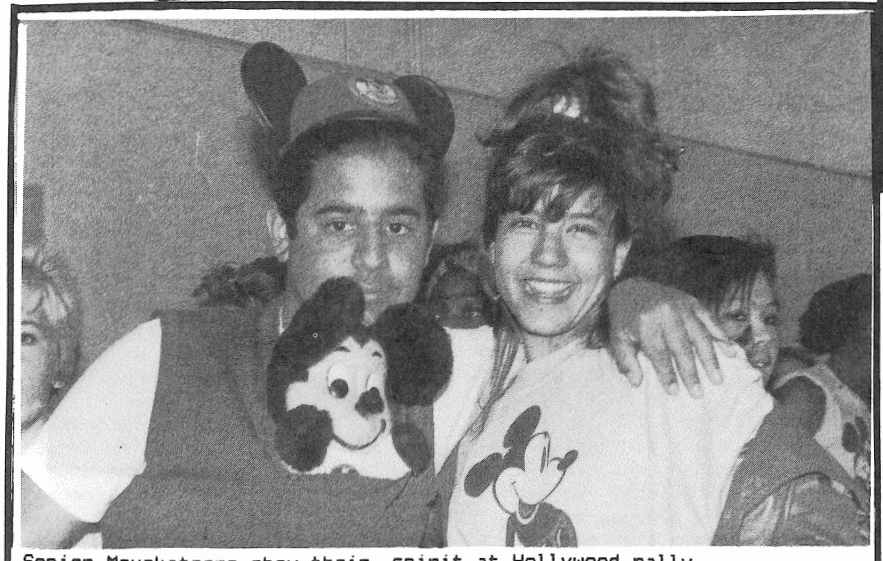
Where could you find Mr. Rodgers, Pee Wee Herman, Tom Cruise, and Dr. Ruth on Friday October 3. Nowhere else except at El Cerrito High's "Hollywood" Rally.

At the rally the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes performed skits that in some aspect related to hollywood. The skits and the traditional class yell were judged individually and then the two were combined to determine an overall winner.

The freshman class did their own version of hollywood squares for their skit. Their celebrity cast included Tom Cruise, Madonna, and Whitney Houston. they also impersonated a "typical" student from the Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes.

The Sophomore class also performed a version of hollywood squares. Mr. Rodgers, Dr. Ruth, Charlie's Angels and the Doublemint Twins highlighted their celebrity cast.

"Hollwood Through The Years" was the theme of the Junior skit. The year 1928 was acted out like a silent movie, in 1958 three girls sang Blue Moon and 1988 the entire Junior class danced to Run D.M.C's hit " My Adidas ".



Senior Mouskateers show their spirit at Hollywood rally.

The Senior class focused on the golden years of the Mousekateers and their 80's version of the Mousekateers. About 10 seniors , most with mickeymouse ears skipped around like the old mousekateers. The 80's version of the mousekateers were thugs in mickey mouse t-shirts dancing to "My Adidas".

The sophomore class came in first with their skit, the seniors were second, the freshman third and the juniors were last.

Even with a last place performance in the skit competition , their dominance in the class yell gave the juniors the overall victory.

The student body reaction to the Hollywood rally was mixed. Some students liked the rally while some people hated it. According to one student, " The rally seemed to be 3 hours long when it was actually only 45 minutes."

A Word From Your S.A.

By Trina Tucker

Starting with this edition, the S.A. will be writing this column in order for El Cerrito to become a more informed, active, and unified student body.

HOMECOMING SPIRIT WEEK has been set for November 2-November 7. The schedule is as follows: Monday-toga day; Tuesday-pajamas day; Wednesday-50's day; Thursday-theme day; and Friday is green and white day. Don't forget to dress up to show your school spirit! Also, a reminder to all those interested in running for homecoming king and queen, applications are due October 24. Applications are available in Mrs. Calhoun's office, room 100.

S.A. STICKERS: the S.A. sticker contest held between the classes is now over. The standings are as follows: seniors had 147 with 37.4%, the sophomores had 151 with 36.4%, the juniors followed with 134 and 32.4%, and the freshmen finished fourth with 113 and 25.2%. You can still buy your S.A. sticker from the cashier for $7.00.

GAUCHO SWEATSHIRTS: buy your El Cerrito Gaucho sweatshirt now!! They're on sale at the cashier's window for $16.00 with a S.A. sticker and $17.50 without.

A REMINDER: if you are unhappy about how the S.A. is handling school affairs, DO SOMETHING! There is a suggestion box in the main office for your advice, comments, and suggestions. Have a voice in your activities! We look forward to hearing from you!

Spanish Club makes su llegada

by Tyler Wong

Every Wednesday, during lunch, Constance Perry holds a Spanish Club meeting in Room 604. Although it is labeled as a Spanish "Club", it is open to anyone in the school.

When asked how many members there were, she said,"I'm not sure. There's really no count. It's not one of those clubs where you have to attend the meetings. I don't want to scare anyone into thinking 'Not another club! Not more obligation!' because there isn't any. There's no pressure."

Perry also teachers ESL and she wants to encourage them to show up. "I think it would be a good idea for my ESL students to meet people so they won't feel like outsiders. I also would like someone as an assistant to my other students."

"It's kind of like a Round Table. We get together and study further into the language. That's the main reason for starting the club."Her big wish? "A trip to Spain. I would love to take some of my members and fly there. I really need members, though. If I can get enough members, I might get a free chaperone. But Money is still the problem. It always is. The plane fare is too expensive. I certainly couldn't do it with a teacher's salary."

"It's mainly a place where my Spanish students can look into the language more," says Perry, "but there have been other students, even French students, coming in just to be with their friends or to make new ones."

Dare to drive

by Leslie Soo

Getting your drivers license is a sign of independence, which is why most students take Drivers Education and Training. After many hours of learning the rules of the road, today I was actually behind the wheel.

I felt nervous as I started the car. The normal characteristics are sweaty palms, a pounding heart, and a parched throat. The rumbling of the engine matched the beating of my heart. I released the emergency brake and the car moved a little-my heart dropped. I continued to drive cautiously, avoiding pedestrians and lost dogs while every car on the road passed me by. My instructor sat calmly,occasionally making comments on my mistakes.

The real experience is sitting in the car while another student drives. You try to sit without flinching in the back seat, clutching the seat as if your life depended on it. Going 30 mph screeching around the hills of Kensington was not fun. It's not only scary but embarssing too. As soon as other cars see the "Student Driver" sign they avoid the car at all costs. One student drove on Arlington Ave. at 7 m.p.h. ,causing a traffic jam of about 20 honking cars. After 6 weeks of training, you can take the test to get your license.

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OPINIONS

SA alive and healthy

by Jill Taketa

Recently, in Andrew Kaplan's CABALLERO editorial, "Trouble in Washington, EC," it was more or less expressed that the El Cerrito Student Association is a disorganized, nonproductive group of elected officers. This is far from true! If this is the common opinion then most of the student body is not aware of how vital SA is.

I find it disturbing that people often expect things to happen as they wish without making any effort on their part. They also tend to criticize- more than often unfairly- those who do make the effort. Here at El Cerrito, one of these people is Andrew Kaplan. I use the example of Andrew Kaplan, not to attack him on a personal level, but to point out that people, who are indifferent to the way things are, cannot expect others to rectify the situation to their satisfaction. In other words- if you aren't helping out, perhaps you shouldn't complain!

Don't get me wrong- SA is not a sacred institution without its faults. I guess what I object to is Kaplan's seemingly random

This is irresponsible journalism

attack on SA- I say this because the opinions lacked supporting evidence. I find it to be a waste of breath if your opinions have no meaning. For example: Kaplan mentioned taking a poll and concluded that students do not know the purpose of SA. How many students took part in the poll? What questions were asked? Were the participants of diverse groups? Without knowing things such as these, a poll's results are insignificant. For all anyone could know, Kaplan could have interviewed five of his close friends, all of whom share his attitude, and asked,"What does SA do?" and left it at that. What good is a poll then? Also, according to the other SA officers, not one of them was interviewed by Kaplan, myself included. Nor did he check with the leadership class to find out what was actually happening with SA, before or after he wrote his editorial. This is clearly irresponsible journalism. Let's face it, if you're going to say you investigated, i.e. the poll, then you should do a thorough job. As a Cabby page editor, Kaplan should know this.

Kaplan would be shocked to know what the SA actually does. Without SA, common events such as homecomingg, rallies, football games, dances, and other activities that are taken for granted would not exist or would be nearly impossible to organize. There would be no unity among classes. The student body is fortunate to have a leadership class where all types of students-Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, atheletes, cheerleaders, SA officers as well

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Administration too harsh

For better or for worse

by Neil Gross

Ralph Conant of Brandeis University wrote in 1971 that "...civil protest can focus public attention on the targets of the protest action..." While those involved in the recent vandalism in the pit area were no doubt unaware of Conant's thesis, their actions and the unreasonable action of the school administration against the sophomore class have focused attention on a very real problem at El Cerrito High School. In its haste to encourage adherence to schoool policies, the administration is willing to trample the rights of the innocent.

The action fell short of what was required

The most obvious goal of the school in suspending all sophomore activities was to identify those who committed the act. The administration hoped that either the perpetrators would feel guilty about destroying the activities of the sophomore class, or that someone who had witnessed the vandalism would expose the vandals in order to protect his or her activities as a member of the sophomore class.

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SA President's double standards

by Andrew M. Kaplan

Miss Taketa was right. The cartoon on last edition's page was needlessly tactless and nasty in it's portrayal of our SA president. However, it didn't represent so much my "rude and cynical" sense of humor so much as a lack of communication between me and several artists. However, if the picture had been drawn as a generic SA president, I would have run it without hesitation.

Still, I can't see why Miss Taketa feels capable to make judgments about one person's actions, and then turn around and do the same thing herself. She accuses me of irresponsible journalism, by not properly preparing for my story. As far as not talking to SA officers, that is absolutely false. I spoke with several SA officers, plus Ms. O'Brian. If they decided that they didn't want to tell Miss Taketa this themselves, then I think that this speaks more for the SA's integrity than it does for mine.

As for my poll, I wish that I did have five friends that shared my viewpoint. As it was, I had to run off questionnaires asking if the person answering was a member of student government, what they thought the SA was supposed to do, what they thought it was doing, and what they thought that it should be doing and wasn't. I talked to several teachers who agreed that a language class (French, in this case) would give me a good representation of students, regardless of class or ability, and an American Experience 2 class would give me a good cross-section of senior opinions. So I gave questionnaires to those two classes, and to anyone else that I could get to take one. Out of the 45 I got back, only about 3 or 4 knew even partially what the SA was supposed to do. But even those people agreed with the rest that what the SA probably really did was goof off. I knew that the SA organized rallies, football games, etc. I also knew that there was a lot that they could do besides, and weren't. Miss Taketa obviously didn't do a through job of research herself, or she wouldn't be quite so quick to make accusations.

The rest of Miss Taketa's rebuttal doesn't make any sense. If I didn't care about what was happening, I wouldn't have even bothered to write anything in the first place, and I certainly wouldn't be a member of the Student Legislature. And, yes, I knew that the constitution was being revised, but the end result is a confused mess that essentially turns the Executive Committee into an elitist clique, among other mistakes, and that is something that I will never be able to support. Fortunately, our Vice President, Seymour Liao, is really working to make the Legislature into a workable organization with stronger ties to the student body, and this is certainly a large step in the right direction.

El Caballero is an official student publication of El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury, El Cerrito, California 94530. The opinions expressed in these editorials are not necessarily those of the El Caballero or the ECHS administration. All letters to the editor must be written and signed; the writer's name will be withheld by request. For advertising rates, write to El Cerrito High School, c/o Journalism Department.

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Gauchos blitz Skyline, psyched for Spartans

by Kari Chew

The El Cerrito football team added another win to their belt, making it four in a row, by beating Skyline High 21-6.

El Cerrito takes its impressive 4-1 pre-season record into tonight's GBAL season opener against De La Salle, last year's North Coast Section Champs. Play begins at 7:30 at El Cerrito High.

The first Gaucho points were posted by a five yard pass from senior quarterback Brad Brown, who was 11 of 15 for 112 yards, to senior tight end Joel Weinstein.

The Gaucho running game still proved to be strong even with the absence of junior running back Kevin Harris.

Junior running back Darnel Davison exploded for a 116 yard rushing game including a 29 yard touchdown making the score 14-0 with 10:05 left in the game.

The powerful El Cerrito defense held the Titans to only one touchdown. With 5:51 remaining in the game, Skyline tried to muster up a rally of its own by sacking Brown and recovering the fumble. The Titans moved 29 yards in four plays to cut their deficit to 14-6.

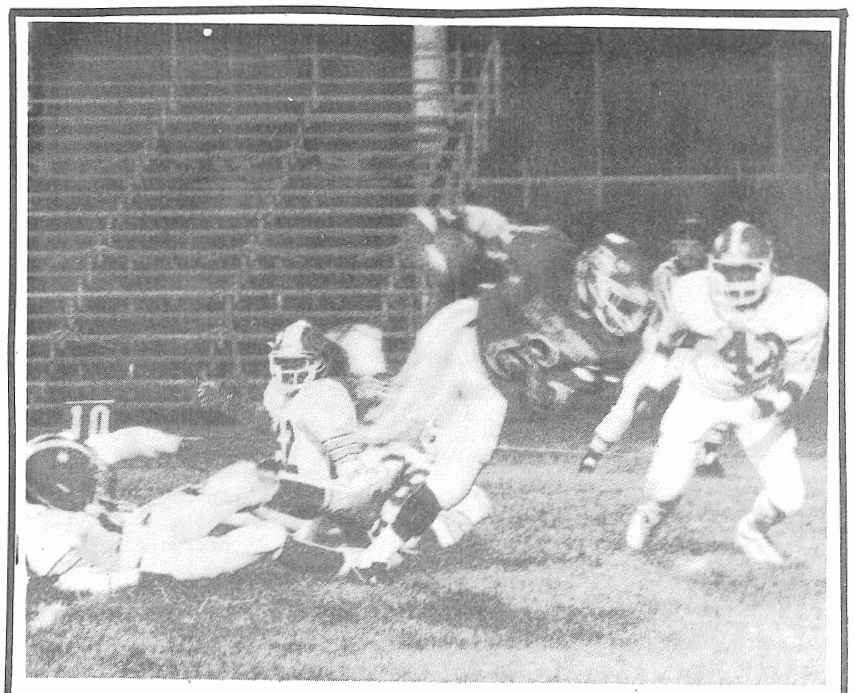
The Gauchos finally secured the win with 2:21 remaining, moving 28 yards to set up senior Sydney Johnson's 43 yard touchdown run.Junior Chad Jorgensen, 3 for 3 on the night, easily kicked in the extra point, making the score a final 21-6.

"We needed this game to build up our momentum in going into tonight's De La Salle game ", Brown said.

GAUCHO NOTES: The El Cerrito football team rolled over Oakland High 41-6. "It was our first real team effort ", quarterback Brad Brown stated.

The team was able to capitalize on two out of three interceptions made by Demar Lincoln, Terry Thomas and Fred Williams. Ken Colbert contributed two touchdowns, 47 and 38 yard receptions.

The rest of the scores came from a 21 yard run by Kevin Harris a 9 yard catch by Fred Abdullah, and rushes coming from Ernest Carter and Charles Phillips.Place-kicker Chad Jorgensen was 5 of 6 for the night.

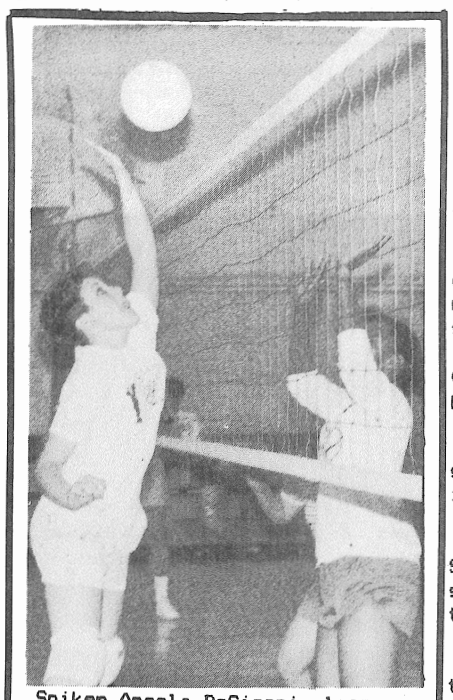


Running back Kevin Harris evades Oakland defense.

Gaucho serves dominate Eagles

by Amy Page

The Gaucho spikers overpowered Kennedy to win their second league game in an unmatched contest, 15-5, 15-4.



Spiker Angela DeSimoni leaps high for a block.

The El Cerrito High volleyball team's record now stands at 1-1 in GBAL and 3-3 overall, after dropping the league opener to Carondelet, 15-0, 15-6.

The Gauchos were supported by strong play from all team members with senior Janet Schultz and junior Patty Osorio leading the way.

In the first game, after sophomore Casie Espinosa served for the first Gaucho point, senior Lisa Nakamura earned three service points for EC, including an ace and a senior Stacie Espinosa spike, to lead Kennedy 4-0. The Eagles won their first point with an ace to make it 4-1.

Osorio upped the score to 6-1 on her service with two powerful aces. Senior Angela DeSimoni, Schultz, Nakamura and Osorio combined to serve for the next nine Gaucho points and the EC defense held Kennedy to only four more points to win 15-5. Schultz and Espinosa both added dinks.

In the second game, EC ran off with the lead opening with nine uncontested points. Six straight Schultz serving points, including four unanswered serves- one an ace-and an Osorio dink, put the Gauchos ahead 7-0.

With EC ahead 9-2, Osorio served three straight points including two aces to lead 12-2.

Nakamura, and juniors Lorna Stoneall and Rachel Davidman served for the rest of the points to wrap up the 15-5 victory.

Along the way, Schultz spiked the ball beyond the reach of falling Eagle hands and later scored the final point with a leaping block of a Kennedy spike.

EC visits Berkeley on October 21 and hosts Carondelet on the 23rd. Both games will be played at 3:30.

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658-1967

X-country wins Stevenson

On Saturday, October 11, The El Cerrito men's X-Country team captured the Stevenson Invitational title for the third consecutive year. The Women's team failed to field a varsity team.

Individual winner Alex Da Silva led the men to their first invitational win of the year. Da Silva romped to a 25 second win over the 2nd place runner. In an outstanding team effort Morgan McClarty placed 5th, Rolland Evans 8th and Steve Turnipseed finished 9th. Brian John, Nathan Stahlhut, and Chris McDonald rounded out the varsity team. The Gaucho's had a low score of 40 points. Coach Helen Lehman was "impressed with their team effort, it's a good indication of what they'll do in the future."

Junior Marisa Gardella, the only Gaucho girl to run in the varsity race, ran to a 5th place finish. In the Soph Frosh competion Lori Okamura raced to an impressive 2nd place finish. Sophomores Jessica Buehring, Noel Montoya and La Twan Wheaton also ran well in the Soph Frosh race.

The varsity teams competed in the Stanford Invitational, the largest invitational in Northern California. Senior Veli Lehman raced to an outstanding 7th place finish.

The Gaucho's also competed in the Artichoke Invitational in Half Moon Bay. Lehman again raced to an impressive 2nd place finish and Gardella placed 11th.

The Harriers will compete in the Mariner Invitational on Saturday in Hayward.

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Sophomores scar pit

by Ray Yokoi

Sophomore activities were saved at the last minute when the vandals came foward and admitted to the painting of the pit.

Besides being an insult to the senior class, the administration felt that it was an act of blatant vandalism. When asked if the suspension of all sophomore activities was too harsh, Mr. Boles, Administrative-Vice Principal, stated, "In order to find the culprits, I felt that class and peer pressure were needed to make them come forward."

The confession of the vandals resulted in the reinstatement of sophomore activities. However, The act will not go unpunished. The vandals will be assigned to clean up the entire painted area to prepare for the class of 87's traditional art work.

The sophomores responsible felt that they were only promoting sophomore class spirit. " We were just trying to liven' up our class, which is kind of dead. I guess it sort of backfired and were're paying the price. "

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Sophomores CONTINUED

The other goal was to discourage future similar action. By making an example of this one incident, the administration hoped to dissuade future vandalism.

The second question that needs to be answered is whether the action taken by the administration achieved its goals?

Since those who committed the act turned themselves in, the suspension of class activities was an adequate means of finding out who was guilty.

But the second goal of the administration was deterance, and in that respect the action fell far short of what was required. Cancelling all sophomore class activities embittered many students against the administration, thus promoting the possibility of future vandalism.

Yet the question on the minds of many students is whether the actions were just ones?

The answer appears to be a resounding "no." In handing down the collective punishment the school administraion held an entire group guilty by way of administrative decree. It enacted a policy of discrimination that was worse than the vandalism it sought to punish and deter.

In much the same manner homosexuals are discriminated against because of the fear that they will spread AIDS, the sophomore class was discriminated against simply because a few of its members chose to commit an act of vandalism.

While no reasonable persons advocate vandalism perhaps next time, should a similar situation arise, the school administration will find a way of discovering the guilty without also punishing the innocent.

Seniors clean up our act

by Jamie Jung

El Cerrito Mayor, Chuck Lewis attended the Senior class' third school cleanup on Saturday, September 20.

The Seniors concentrated on cleaning the area around the Ashbury fence during this last cleanup. Several community citizens commended the Seniors on their work. El Cerrito Principal, Mrs. Blackman stated in reference to the Ashbury fence cleanup, "The Seniors did something that the School District should have done, but didn't. We have been asking the District for years to clean up, but they never did."

English teacher, Mrs. Cone is responsible for the idea of Senior cleanups. According to Senior class President, Jose Guerro, "All the credit should go to Mrs. Cone. She thought of the idea, and all we did was accept it and organize it."

According to Jose, one of the main reasons that the Seniors cleaned up was, "Not only to make the school cleaner, but so that other classes would follow our footsteps. We wanted other classes to do clean ups, but no one did. I am disappointed." Blackman agrees with him saying, "They (the Seniors) have set a positive tone for the classes coming after them to follow." She is sure that the other classes will follow suit. It is not too late for any other cleanups.

Cafeteria CONTINUED

On the bad side, the pizza and cheeseburgers still need a little work. Real pepperoni or sausage would be nice on the pizza (as well as some more seasonings in the rather dull sauce), and something should be used besides a seemingly stale white bread bun for the burgers.

Overall, though, the cafeteria shows a marked improvement from past years, and with a little more work, could be excellent all around.

Driver's ed. CONTINUED

Parents are never in favor of your new driving independence. One problem is the high cost of insurance. You can't be too independent if you don't have a car of your own. So get rid of those dreams about driving a red, convertible Ferrari as your first car. Getting your drivers license, means you have a license, nothing else. Your parents decide if you have the car to drive. Teenagers feel that parents are reluctant to give up the keys because it shows their children aren't dependent and little as they used to be. They realize that their children are growing up, and parents feel even older.

Drivers Education and Training may appear to be a pain, but learning to drive is a necessity . Whether or not your parents let you have the car on Friday night is unfortunately not a necessity. But driving is a part of becoming an adult, and whether parents like it or not, we will eventually grow up.

Student Assoc. CONTINUED

as class officers, and anyone else who is interested can come together to organize school activities.

Currently SA is accomplishing the following:

1.)Sticker Sales- a % of money goes to the classes; money is allocated to programs (athletics, clubs) on request and approval by the legislature; art supplies are purchased for leadership (these supplies are available to all students for school use- i.e. campaigns, club posters, etc.)
2.)Continuation of the E.C Constitution's revision - this project was underway before the publishing of the Kaplan's editorial.
3.)Organizing Conflict Management for E.C.
4.)Organizing Homecoming (Nov. 7)
5.)Planning future rallies and an upcoming sock hop.
6.)Snowball.
7.)Sweatshirt sales - profit goes to the SA fund

Plus much more

If you are unaware of what SA is doing, take the initiative to get involved. Listen to the morning anouncements, check the weekly bulletin, even run for office or enroll into the leadership class. It is important that SA not only has your suggestions but your participation as well. To be a hypocrite is far worse than doing and saying nothing at all.

Last but not least - I feel that Kaplan's rude and cynical sense of humor as displayed in his cartoon, was entirely unecessary. It seems to me that he is not only a hypocrite but his judgement as to what is appropriate for the newspaper is poor. His picture of the SA President, quite obviously me, was tactless as well as viewed as a personal and/or racial slur by some. Andrew Kaplan, do us all a favor and put more thought and investigation into it next time.